

U.S.S.N. 09/057,406

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for kindly withdrawing all of the rejections previously of record.

Claims 10, 32, 44, 46, 55-57, and 63 have been amended. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in general throughout Applicants' Specification and in particular, for example, as follows: claims 10, 32, 44, 46, 55-57, and 63, page 6, lines 29-page 5, line 3. No new matter has been added. The amendments to the claims have been made to speed prosecution and not for reasons related to patentability. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the claims in their original form in a continuing application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-12, 33-36, 38-42, 44, and 46-64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Maletsky in view of either Smith et al., Thomson et al. (U.S. 3,239,370), U.K. 688,637, French Patent 1,571,760, UK. 1,160,190, Henkel et al. or Elliott (U.S. 3,573,125), optionally further in view of Cardinal et al. or Korpman (U.S. 4,886,511).

Applicants expressly note their disagreement with the characterizations set forth in the August 25, 2005 Office action regarding the alleged teachings of the above-cited references.

Claim 10 now recites "dispensing a continuous film ... from a coating device in a substantially horizontal direction." Neither Maletsky et al. nor Smith et al. nor Thomson et al. nor U.K. 688,637 nor French Patent 1,571,760 nor UK. 1,160,190 nor Henkel et al. nor Elliott nor Cardinal et al. nor Korpman teach or suggest dispensing a film from a coating device in a substantially horizontal direction. Applicants submit, therefore, that the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Maletsky et al. in view of either Smith et al., Thomson et al., U.K. 688,637, French Patent 1,571,760, UK. 1,160,190, Henkel et al. or Elliott, optionally further in view of Cardinal et al. or Korpman, has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 2-9, 11, 12, 33-36, 38-42, 44, and 46-64 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Maletsky et al. in view of either Smith et al., Thomson et al., U.K. 688,637, French Patent 1,571,760, UK. 1,160,190, Henkel et al. or Elliott,

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optionally further in view of Cardinal et al. or Korpman has been overcome for at least the same reasons set forth above with respect to claim 10, and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

Claims 3 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Maletsky et al. in view of either Smith et al., Thomson et al., U.K. 688,637, French Patent 1,571,760, UK. 1,160,190, Henkel et al. or Elliott, optionally further in view of Cardinal et al. or Korpman, and further in view of Waggoner or U.K. 688,637.

The deficiencies of Maletsky et al., Smith et al., Thomson et al., U.K. 688,637, French Patent 1,571,760, UK. 1,160,190, Henkel et al., Elliott, Cardinal et al. and Korpman set forth above are incorporated herein. Neither Waggoner nor U.K. 688,637 cure the deficiencies of Maletsky et al., Smith et al., Thomson et al., U.K. 688,637, French Patent 1,571,760, UK. 1,160,190, Henkel et al., Elliott, Cardinal et al. and Korpman. In particular, neither Waggoner nor U.K. 688,637 teach or suggest dispensing a film from a coating device in a substantially horizontal direction. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 3 and 4 are distinguishable under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over the proposed combination of Maletsky et al. in view of either Smith, Thomson et al., U.K. 688,637, French Patent 1,571,760, UK. 1,160,190 or Elliott, optionally further in view of Cardinal et al. or Korpman, and further in view of Waggoner or U.K. 688,637 for at least the same reasons set forth above in distinguishing claim 10, and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner feels a teleconference interview would be helpful, the undersigned can be reached at (651) 236-5620.

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Respectfully submitted,



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